

Obtaining Information from a College or University

- Visit the college website for information about academics, campus life, sports, and the college application process.
- Look up information in one of the large books that compile college and university profiles (such as Barron's).
- Speak with your CVU house counselor.
- Visit the college campus. Attend information session, take a tour, talk to students in the student center, make an appointment to meet with a coach or professor, sit in on a class.
- Meet with the college representative who visits CVU.
- Schedule an interview with a local alum whose name you obtain from the college admissions office.

TIP: Consider different sources when learning about a college. Speaking to former high school students is only one resource. Visiting is always helpful. There is considerable information on-line and in the Direction Center.

Reading Materials about a College

The most reliable and detailed source of information is the college website. For deadlines, it is imperative to go to the source and not listen to word-of-mouth. Some colleges will send catalogs upon request. It is advisable to compare colleges through similar sources of information.

What to look for in materials:

- ❖ The educational philosophy of the college. What are the objectives? What are the requirements for admission? What are class sizes? What is the history or affiliation?
- ❖ The total expense. What is tuition, room & board (required), extra fees? Consider your own personal transportation needs. Factor in books, times eating outside the meal plan, and financial aid.
- ❖ Courses and programs offered in your area of interest. Is the college accredited? If you complete the program, what credential will you have? Does completion of the program guarantee licensure, if applicable? Are there any published professors whose work and research is of interest to you? Does the college have a department or major in your area of interest? Is there flexibility if you change direction? What is the required coursework?
- ❖ Rules and regulations governing student behavior. What are the policies about dorm hours, weekend trips, vehicle ownership, clubs, smoking/drinking in dorms, dorms or suites with themes, etc?
- ❖ Governance. Is there a student newspaper? Is there student government? Is there a history of collaboration or confrontation?
- ❖ What is the caliber of the teaching faculty? Are courses taught by professors or teaching assistants? How accessible is the faculty? Does the faculty advise students in a formal advising system?